

Farnham Urban District Council.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE


MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR

*1904,*

BY

S. G. SLOMAN.



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# REPORT.

I beg to report that I have received 96 notifications during the year. This number is made up of 22 cases of Diphtheria, 26 of Scarlatina, 2 of Erysipelas, 45 of Measles, and 1 of Small-pox. This is more of each than in 1903. The following table will show how the cases were distributed throughout the year. There was a distinct epidemic of Measles and two very small epidemics of Diphtheria.

MONTH.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Small-pox.
January .....	1	3	..	1	..
February .....	..	4	..	..	..
March .....	..	4	..	1	..
April .....	..	2	..	8	..
May .....	4	2	1	25	1
June .....	..	..	..	5	..
July .....	6	1	..	1	..
August .....	2	4	..	..	..
September .....	5	..	..	2	..
October .....	..	1	..	..	..
November .....	2	3	1	1	..
December .....	2	2	..	1	..
TOTALS .....	22	26	2	45	1

Diphtheria. There have been 22 cases in all. This is a considerable increase on the number notified in 1903. They may be sub-divided into 11 single and isolated cases and two small epidemics of 6 and 5—of the 11 single cases 3 occurred on premises where no sanitary defect was discoverable, and the position of the houses was fairly good; 3 occurred in one of the four houses in Potter's Yard which were reported on very unfavourably in a special report dated 15th June, which showed the small and confined back yards overshadowed by a large building, almost completely shutting out all light and air, which state of things is so commonly associated with Diphtheria. 2 others were in Church Lane where the conditions of the over-shadowed back yard are very similar. Another was in Beaver's Yard, in one of

the houses which were the subject of an unfavourable report dated 26th Nov., 1903. Another was in Abbey Street in one of the 4 houses reported on as unsanitary in June; and one case was imported from Rowledge to a house in Abbey Street, but appears to have had no connection with this latter house.

A small epidemic of 5 cases occurred in July amongst children attending St. Polycarp's School; the cause of the first case was not clearly made out, but no fresh cases occurred after the school was closed by an order signed by two Members of the District Council on 28th July.

The second small epidemic consisted of 6 cases in August and September, and was eventually discovered to have been due to an unrecognised case in a child who had the disease so slightly that he was able to go about without restriction and even go on a visit to London, where he infected two persons also; so that this one case was responsible for 7 other cases before he was detected and sent to the Isolation Hospital. He was living in one of the houses in St. James' Avenue reported on by the Surveyor on Oct. 27th.

The only death was that of the child brought in from the Rural District.

**Scarlatina.** 26 cases were notified, in 17 of these there was no second case in the house; in one house two brothers followed the original case, and in two houses one case in each followed the first case. Three children were nursed at home instead of being sent to the Hospital, but it did not spread to any other member of the household in any of them. None of all these died.

As several of the children attacked in February had been attending the National Schools, I inspected, on the 23rd of that month 171 infants in school that morning. I did not find any child who was certainly infectious, but 3 were doubtful, so they were kept away from school by my advice, and under my observation.

**Enteric Fever.** No case was notified during the year; but one case was notified and treated at Guildford in a person who had been living in West Street. His house was carefully examined and no fault found to account for the disease, so probably it had its origin elsewhere than in Farnham.

**Measles.** There were 45 cases notified, of which 7 were single cases distributed over 9 months of the year, but 38 of them formed one epidemic lasting nearly three months which was connected with the school at York House. They mostly occurred either among the pupils or their brothers and sisters. The origin of this epidemic was not



clearly made out, but I think it is probable that the infection was conveyed from 2 cases which there were at the Temperance Hotel, almost adjoining, because I know that the occupier of the hotel was not as careful in isolating the children as he might have been. Fortunately no death resulted from this epidemic.

**Erysipelas.** Only 2 cases—in one the premises had considerable sanitary defects, but in the other case there was nothing specially unsanitary.

**Small-pox.** One case was discovered in a tramp at the Union who had come from a lodging house at Aldershot. As our arrangement with Cheam for taking our Small-pox cases had just expired the patient was isolated as well as could be at the Union, and as quickly as possible a specially prepared Isolation Hospital was erected at Bushy Reeds, and a special doctor and nurse engaged. Fortunately it did not spread. The frequency with which Small-pox is conveyed to a district by tramps makes one feel how desirable it would be that all tramps should be re-vaccinated on entrance into any Workhouse unless they can prove that they have been re-vaccinated already. I can see no reason why re-vaccination should be enforced on applicants for posts in the Post Office, and other public services and not be enforced on tramps who do so very much mischief, and cause the enormous expense to local authorities of which we have lately had experience.

In February I received word from the M. O. H., of Battersea, that a young man called Patterson had been in contact with Small-pox in London, and had come to his house at Trevor, Tilford Road. I visited him and vaccinated him—he did not have Smallpox and after a period of quarantine went back to his work.

In March a soldier named Paris landed from a ship on which there had been Small-pox, and I received notice that he had gone to his home at Darvill's Lane. I visited him but found that he had been re-vaccinated within 2 years so did not think it necessary to take any active steps.

A conference was called by the County Council at Kingston, in June, of representatives of all the local authorities of the county, and some members of the Council and their officers attended. We were told that a scheme for bringing Small-pox Isolation Hospitals within a reasonable distance of every part of the county was under consideration, and were asked for observations on the subject.

**Influenza** caused two deaths during the year, though at no time prevalent as an epidemic.

**Whooping Cough** has caused one death, though no large epidemic was present.

## **ISOLATION HOSPITAL.**

This hospital has been a great boon to the district during the year. Of the 22 cases of Diphtheria admitted only one died, and that was a child from Abbey Street who was moribund on admission. All the 23 cases of Scarlatina recovered and in no instance was there a "return" case. With regard to the advantage of isolation in the treatment of these diseases, and the limiting of the epidemics, I would like to draw the attention of the Council to a few statistics.

1. Of the diseases which are admitted to the Hospital there were respectively 22 and 26 cases in the year. Of Measles which is not admitted there were at least 45 cases.

2. To look at the numbers from another point of view. The 22 cases of Diphtheria occurred in 16 households and in only 3 was there another case besides the original one, which equals nearly one in five or more accurately 0·187. The 26 cases of Scarlatina were in 21 households and in only 4 was there a second case; this again equals nearly one in five or 0·190. The 45 cases of measles occurred in 27 households and in 11 there were two or more cases; this equals rather more than two in five or 0·407.

The deductions I wish to draw from these figures are that not only is the actual number of cases in the year much more when the cases are not removed from their homes, but also that the probability of not being able to prevent subsequent cases is more than twice as great, when the infection has got into a house.

The Isolation Hospital Committee have made a good move I think by supplying to each medical practitioner in the district a supply of anti-diphtheritic serum, so that no time may be lost in giving the patient a first dose before he can be admitted to the hospital, the reason being that so much better results are obtained in the cases where the serum is used very early in the disease.

The removal of patients and the disinfection of their bedding has worked expeditiously and smoothly; only 3 of the 48 cases preferring to be nursed at home.

## **PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION.**

It will probably be within the knowledge of the Council that great efforts are being made to check the ravages of Consumption among the population, and that among other useful means is the establishing a system of voluntary notification of Phthisis to the M. O. H. I should like very much to start this in the Urban District if the Council will allow me; it would give me the opportunity of giving instructions to those in charge of patients suffering from the disease, and of disinfecting the house after a death. The process would be to send a circular to all the medical men practising in the district, asking them if they would be so good as to notify to your M. O. H. when they had a patient suffering from Phthisis and offering to pay 2/6 per certificate as is done at present for Scarlatina, &c., and also offering to pay the fee for



a bacteriological examination of the sputum in suspected cases. As some guide to the probable cost I may say that 7 persons died of Phthisis during the year, and that the cost of examining the sputum would not exceed 5/- in each case.

### BIRTH AND DEATH RATE.

The Birth-rate and Death-rate have kept almost exactly stationary, but what little difference there is, is in the right direction, the birth-rate having increased from 25·10 to 25·23 per 1000, as against 23·62 which is the average of the last 10 years; and the death-rate has been decreased from 12·17 to 12·16, the average of 10 years being 13·60.

The Zymotic death-rate has been 0·75 as against 0·76 per 1000.

The death-rate for infants under 1 year, has been, I am glad to say, considerably less: it has been 83·3 per 1000 births as against 103·0 last year and 101·1 the average of 10 years.

The following table gives the statistics in detail of the births and deaths, the calculations having been made on a population estimated to the middle of 1904 at 6,659.

The Union statistics are also shown in the same table.

MONTH.	TOWN.				UNION.			
	DEATHS.		BIRTHS.		DEATHS.		BIRTHS.	
	Total per Month.	Zymotic Diseases.	Under 1 Year.		Total per Month.	Zymotic Diseases.	Under 1 year.	
January .....	11	..	3	14	4	..	..	..
February .....	8	..	1	19	9	..	..	4
March .....	8	1	1	8	5	..	..	..
April .....	4	..	..	18	8	..	..	..
May .....	7	..	2	13	..	..	..	1
June .....	3	1	..	15	2	..	..	3
July .....	5	..	1	9	5	..	..	2
August .....	10	2	3	11	8	1	1	..
September .....	3	1	2	21	6	..	..	4
October .....	8	..	1	15	5	..	..	..
November .....	8	..	..	18	6	..	1	3
December .....	6	..	1	7	7	..	..	..
In Brookwood .....	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
TOTALS .....	81	5	15	168	68	1	2	17
Per 1000 per annum	12·16	0·75	2·27	25·23				
Do. in 1903 .....	12·17	0·76	2·58	25·10				
Do. in 1902 .....	10·67	1·11	1·61	21·35				

## **MIDWIVES' ACT.**

The administration of this Act puts another duty on your M. O. H. I have received preliminary instructions from the County Council and in accordance with them I have visited all the persons in the district whom I know of, as either having been, or being in practice as midwives and found out if they intend to continue so practising. I find that only Nurse Phillips and Nurse Lock are going to practise in the future. So far as I know at present the duties of the M. O. H. are to occasionally inspect the Midwives' Apparatus, to receive notices from her of any cases she attends which go wrong and to take such steps as may be necessary to prevent the infection of puerperal fever being spread from one lying-in woman to another by the midwife. The provisions of this Act give useful power which may be the means of saving lives.

## **WATER SUPPLY.**

The district is now supplied by two companies, mostly the Farnham Water Company but partly by the Wey Valley Water Company: There are very few houses which are not now supplied direct from the mains of one or other company and the number is diminishing annually. All the dairies and cowsheds now have water laid on to the premises.

Complaints had been received of the Farnham Water Company's supply in October, 1903, and the unsatisfactory state of the water then was said to be due to the accidental inefficiency of their filter, however in the first half of 1904 complaints were again received of the quality of the water supplied. Two samples having been submitted to Dr. Brown for analysis, he remarked that the condition of the water was not very good and that it was probably due to imperfect filtration. It is to be hoped that the company will take steps to improve the filtration of their supply, for the quantity used is increasing and is likely to increase greatly in the future, for as the newly added area gets built over more water will be required for the domestic supply besides for the flushing of more sewers and for the watering of more roads. Under these circumstances it is most essential that the water should be above suspicion.

## **HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.**

In April 3 houses were inspected on the Hale Road, and certified as unfit for human habitation, as having no water supply of any kind.

In May 15 houses in Red Lion Lane were inspected and found to be in a very unwholesome and ruinous condition, but as the property was just changing hands at the time, owing to the death of the owner, no action was taken besides writing to the new owners and drawing their attention to the condition of the property. In November they were inspected again and on December 2nd I gave certificates that the 5 worst were unfit for human habitation, and reported that the other 10 were nuisances injurious to health.



In June I inspected 4 houses in Potter's Yard; they were all in very bad condition structurally, and so completely shut in at the back as to be most unwholesome; one which was worse than the rest was certified as unfit for human habitation.

In the same month I had a complaint of the drainage, and general sanitary condition of 4 houses in Abbey Street. After the Surveyor had examined the drains I reported, and the landlord proceeded to relay the drainage.

The Council's 8 houses have been let during the year; they have always been full. The 4 smaller ones with 2 bedrooms let at 4/6 per week, and the larger ones with 3 bedrooms at 6/- per week; the rents received are sufficient to pay current expenses, and the interest on the loan, leaving a balance sufficient to pay back  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the amount of capital repayable annually.

The 12 others which were begun during 1904 are approaching completion; they are on the same general plan, but with certain improvements, and will be built rather more cheaply.

Plans of all new buildings are examined by the Sanitary Inspector and considered by the Sanitary Committee. It is very unfortunate in my opinion that the bye-laws do not give the Council any control over the size of rooms. I do not think a room ought to be permitted to be used as a bedroom which contains less than 600 cubic feet, nett, that is, making deductions for furniture, this only gives the smallest possible quantity allowed in common lodging-houses for 2 people. A room measuring 10ft. 6ins. by 8ft. 6in. by 8ft. would give almost exactly this amount. I would suggest that a bye-law be framed to carry out this idea.

Most of the Schools, Elementary, and other, were inspected during the year; they are kept in very fair order. We found that at Miss Stroud's School, York House, some alterations and amendments were necessary in the drainage, and the landlord immediately did what was necessary.

## **ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES, SEWERAGE AND SCAVENGING.**

The house refuse is collected weekly and the quantity amounts to about 5 tons per day. This is used at the Pumping Station to deodorise the sewage sludge, and this mixture is sold to farmers for manure, the removal of trade and garden refuse is also undertaken by the Council at a fixed charge.

The nine principal streets, or roads are swept twice a day and small and more outlying parts are swept once a day, or as often as may be required; the cost of this is small considering that the sweep-

ings have a ready market, and I am sure the Council will appreciate how necessary it is to keep the surface of the roads as clean as possible from a sanitary point of view. An interesting experiment was made last year, also with the object of diminishing the quantity of dust from the streets which flies about in the air, *and so down into people's lungs*, namely the coating over the roads with a mixture of tar and lime. This is only in the stage of experiment at present, but any effort which would help to prevent the fouling of the air we breathe by the refuse of the streets is worth trying, and I hope the experiment will be repeated this year.

Nuisances have been dealt with mostly by the Inspector who has received general authorization to procure their abatement by direct and immediate negociation with the owners or occupiers causing them, without waiting for the employment of the legal powers of the Council. Owners appear to appreciate this method of dealing with nuisances created, or allowed, by them and as a rule show a readiness to abate them; a very considerable number have been abated in this way, and 26 others of various kinds by legal notice sent by the Inspector.

Several complaints of nuisances arising apparently from the surface water drains, notably one at the corner of the Borough and Downing Street, were found to be due to an escape of gas from the Gas Company's mains into these drains.

The state of the river banks has been considered by the Council, but it appears that the riparian owners are the only persons who can be made responsible, and a conference of these owners called to consider the question, proved abortive.

The Red Lion Lane and Abbey Street sewers, which, owing to their having very slow falls had become partly silted up, have been dredged through and several additional man holes provided.

To accommodate new buildings several extensions of sewers have been carried out: The general system has been regularly flushed and cleansed, and has worked well during the year, including the sewage farm. Two complaints were received, both from the same person about smells supposed to arise from the sewage farm; the first was in July, and enquiry by the Surveyor elicited the fact that on the particular day on which the smell was complained of, the lime process used for disinfecting the sewage as received from the pumping station had been omitted for a few hours. The second complaint was in November, and no omission of the disinfecting precautions had occurred. Two days afterwards when I inspected the farm, there was no more smell than is always present, and is necessarily connected with the working of a sewage farm; but, on the fields outside the farm, and between it and the residence of the complainant, were a very large number of heaps of manure, which on one field had been quite recently spread out over the surface of the ground, and it is almost certain, in my opinion, that



the smell complained of was the result of the recent manuring of the fields alluded to, and not of the sewage farm processes. Considering this, and the fact that after the first complaint in July, the Surveyor asked many of the inhabitants surrounding the farm if they had noticed any objectionable smells from it, and received in all cases a negative reply, I think it is quite probable that the first complaint had as little foundation in fact as the second had.

## **INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.**

During November and December, 1904, I inspected the factories and workshops of the Urban District. With regard to the factories my duty consists only in ascertaining whether the sanitary conveniences are adequate, considering the workpeople employed, and in good order; and satisfying myself that the means of escape are sufficient in case of fire, in all factories where more than 40 persons are employed: I may say that factories are workplaces where machinery is used for doing the work, and in these cases the Factory Inspector enquires into all other matters connected with the regulations of the Factory Act.

In the following factories the sanitary arrangements are good, and the means of escape from fire sufficient in those cases where more than 40 persons are employed. In the case of the Farnham Manufacturing Company (which was reported on last year under the name of Messrs. McLaren and Norris) the sanitary arrangements are now satisfactory, an outside iron staircase has been provided on to which windows open directly, on both the 1st and 2nd floor in such a way as to make a safe means of exit in addition to the ordinary staircase.

Messrs. Crosby, South Street.  
Messrs. Heath ditto.  
Messrs. Hickley ditto.  
Mr. Heath, Fairfield.  
Farnham United Breweries, Ltd.  
Mr. Elliott, West Street.  
Mr. Mathews ditto.  
Farnham Manufacturing Company.

Mr. Langham, East Street.  
Mr. Wiltshire ditto  
Messrs. Barling ditto  
Messrs. Sturt & Goatcher, East Street  
Messrs. Goddard & Sons, East Street  
Messrs. Tily, Castle Street.  
Mr. Mardon ditto

In the cases following I noted small defects causing more or less unsanitary conditions, and I would suggest that a copy of my report as far as relates to each individual case should be sent to the occupier.

FARNHAM GAS COMPANY.—I found here the pan of the water closet had been broken by the recent frost and let the water escape when the flush came, also the pan was not kept clean. This latter



condition could be obviated by appointing some one person whose business it would be to see that the closet is kept clean and in good order.

MESSRS. FENN & Co., WEST STREET.—Here the cistern of the yard water closet did not work efficiently, and the dung heap had been allowed to get much too full. This heap is quite near to 4 or 5 dwelling houses and should be emptied very frequently to prevent a nuisance arising: it would be very useful in diminishing the smell arising from this dung heap that it should have a cover over it to keep the rain out.

SURREY AND HANTS NEWS.—The small confined yard just outside the office is not kept clean, the surface being covered with dead leaves which of course must decompose: the water closet is improved since last year's inspection.

MR. NICHOLS, BORO'.—The yard closet is not kept clean.

MESSRS. TOMPSETT & Co., LONGBRIDGE.—Here are three trough-closets which are flushed automatically: but this is not sufficient to keep the pans clean (all three of which were dirty) without some personal attention, and I should suggest that some one be told off to keep them clean.

## WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES.

The principle points to be enquired into in workshops and work-places are

1. Cleanliness of rooms and premises.
2. Effluvia from drains, closets, &c., getting into them.
3. Ventilation of rooms.
4. Cubic space for each worker (250 c. f. being a minimum).

Having regard to these points I consider the following in good order.

Mr. S. Smith, Abbey Street.  
Miss Wooding, South Street.  
Mr. Kimber, Guildford Road.  
Mr. Smallbone, Hale Road.  
Mr. Littlejohn, East Street.  
Mr. Crosby ditto.  
Miss McClelland ditto.  
Mr. Curtis ditto.  
Miss Tigwell ditto.  
Miss Wharton ditto.  
Mrs. Heath, Beaver's Kilns.  
Mr. Carter, West Street.  
Mr. Jackman ditto.  
Miss Walton ditto.  
Mr. J. H. Nash, Factory Yard.  
Mr. Elphick, West Street.

Mrs. Palmer, Boro'.  
Mr. Shaw ditto.  
Mr. Bavis ditto.  
Mr. Stevens ditto.  
Mr. Elliott Spencer, Boro'.  
Mr. Frisby ditto.  
Mr. Morgan ditto.  
Mr. A. J. Bentall ditto.  
Mr. Jones, Church Lane.  
Mr. Smither, Downing Street.  
Mr. Elliott ditto.  
Miss Brading, Tilford Road.  
Mr. A. J. Figg, Long Garden Walk.  
Mrs. Chuter, Castle Street.  
Mr. Smith ditto.

In the cases following I am not quite satisfied with the sanitary conditions in all ways, and would suggest that the same course be followed as advised when speaking of the Factories, namely, that a copy of my report be sent to the person concerned, so far as it relates to him.

MR. JOHN ROBINS, ABBEY STREET.—Here the workshop adjoins a stable with only a wooden partition between, with so many holes in it as to be quite insufficient to keep out the effluvia from the stable: Mr. Robins' attention was drawn to this at my inspection in 1902 and 1903, but no alteration has been made.

MR. WILTSHIRE, SOUTH STREET.—This workshop is sufficient in itself, but is invaded at times by smells from the slaughter house behind it, a condition of things which must be, of course, most unwholesome, where a slaughter house is so near an inhabited building as this is.

MR. HART, WEST STREET.—Here is an out-door earth closet which is very dirty. It is at such a distance from any inhabited building that I do not suppose it is a nuisance to any one, as it would certainly be if it were near one.

MR. BODKIN, CASTLE STREET.—Here are three workrooms, two for men and one for women: neither of the men's workrooms is kept clean. There is a quantity of snippings and shreds of cloth lying about, and though there are sufficient windows, ventilation is not maintained efficiently. As I pointed out in my last year's report, the inhaling of the air of the room impregnated with the small debris of cloth and dust accumulating on it may be most injurious to the lungs of the workmen. The w.-c. for the men is used also as an urinal, with the result that it is in a very dirty condition. The women's workroom is better ventilated and kept fairly clean.

MR. H. K. BENTALL, BORO'.—This tailor's workshop is not kept clean, there being a good many cobwebs black with dust and dirt on the walls.

**The last case** I have to refer to is MR. E. MARCH, OF EAST STREET. Here a very bad state of things exists. After my report of last year the disgraceful condition of the out-door w.-c. was improved by laying on the water, but the work has been extremely badly done, and the ruinous state of the building itself scarcely improved at all: but the worst feature is the existence just outside the house wall in the small and enclosed back yard, of an untrapped drain chamber very ruinous which receives the contents of one sink and two water closets,



and has no properly fitting cover: it was foul and offensive at the time of my visit. This is a nuisance dangerous to health and should be dealt with by a notice to abate at once.

## **INSPECTION of DAIRIES, COWSHEDS and MILKSHOPS.**

During November and December I inspected the dairies, cowsheds and milkshops.

Of the dairies and cowsheds I found the following in good order, Mr. STOVOLD and Mr. A. SIMMONDS.

Mr. BRETT, of Fir Grove, has ceased to keep cows.

Mr. BIDE's cowsheds at Snailslynch are kept fairly clean, but the drainage from them and the farmyard round which they are situated passes into a large cesspool which is absolutely on the bank of the river, and which showed evident signs of having been running over into the river, but was not actually running at the time of my visit on November 24th, but the cesspool was quite full and there were marks where the contents had overflowed into the river: may I suggest that Mr. Bide's attention be called to this, and that he be requested to provide a cesspool at some other point where it would not run over into the river when overfull.

The premises of the following purveyors of milk were in good order:—

Miss Cole, West Street.  
Mr. Taphouse, Downing Street.  
Mr. Hawkes, East Street.  
Farnham Dairy Co., East Street.

In examining the premises of Mr. LOVELOCK, of Mount Pleasant, I found that the milk cans had not been cleaned after the distribution of the morning's milk and were being sent out again to receive the afternoon's milk: This is of course a most objectionable thing to do, and I would suggest that he be requested to see that the milk vessels are kept clean in future.

Mr. BAIGENT, Brewhouse Yard. Here the safe in which the milk vessels are kept was not clean.

The cottage in which this business is carried on is one of a row of three at the bottom of Brewhouse Yard, on the bank of the river, they none of them have a sink for carrying off waste water which is thrown



down a gully and runs into the river—no water is laid on to these cottages—I would suggest that the owner's attention be called to the unsatisfactory condition of these cottages.

## **INSPECTION OF SLAUGHTER HOUSES.**

These have been inspected from time to time during the year, and by myself and the Surveyor in November and December. There are five general slaughter houses and four places where pigs only are killed in open yards, or on areas specially paved and drained for the purpose. At the time of my visit, they were all in fair order, but in one case certainly the Surveyor had had to make serious representations as to the uncleanly way in which the slaughter house was kept. There is one point, however, in which they nearly all fail to keep the places clean; they are whitewashed only perhaps once in two or three weeks and this is sufficient, except as to the walls up to about 6 feet from the ground; these get splashed with blood and smeared with other things during slaughtering, and because the whitewashed walls cannot be washed clean with water, these splashes of blood and smears remain from one whitewashing to another; now considering that these five slaughter houses are all within a very few yards of inhabited houses, I think it should be required that the walls should be covered with some material that can be cleansed, completely, by washing, immediately after every slaughtering, or else that it be made compulsory to whitewash afresh after every slaughtering.

## **INSPECTION OF LODGING HOUSES.**

There are only two now and they have both been under observation during the year and always been found in good order.

## **INSPECTION OF BAKERIES.**

These having been all inspected by either the Surveyor or myself, I beg to report that they are all in good order except two, namely:

Messrs. ROGERS & RANSOM, Castle Street.—In the bakery itself neither floor, nor ceiling, nor walls, are as clean as they should be kept. In the yard adjoining is a water closet of which the pan was very dirty, and the yard itself is badly paved and not kept clean.

Mr. STEWART, West Street.—Here the bakery itself is fairly clean, but the yard adjoining is *very* dirty. The paving of the yard is

so irregular as to allow such accumulations of filth in its holes as to be a nuisance. There is a stable with no drainage at all at the top of the yard which is a nuisance. Fowls are so kept in the yard as to be a nuisance. There is a dung pit at the top of the yard adjoining the stable, with an accumulation of manure, from which the soakage runs over the yard into the surface water drain; this is also a nuisance. To add to all this the outhouses on one side of the yard have no shooting, so all the rain from them runs on to the surface of the yard. This is a very bad state of things and nothing has been done to improve it, though the owner's attention was drawn to it last year. I advise that notices to abate these several nuisances at once be sent to the owner.

S. G. SLOMAN,

9th March, 1905.

M.O.H.